

Species III, illustrated in Fig. 7;

Species IV, illustrated in Fig. 8;

Species V, illustrated in Fig. 9;

Species VI, illustrated in Fig. 10;

Species VII, illustrated in Fig. 11;

Species VIII, illustrated in Fig. 12;

Species IX, illustrated in Fig. 14; and

Species X, which the Examiner contends is illustrated in Fig. 10 (the very same figure used to identify Species VI).

Applicants elect, **with traverse**, Species I, upon which claims 1-4, 7-8, 12, 15-18, 20-22, 26, 29-32 and 35-36 read, for further prosecution in the present application.

At least claims 1, 15 and 29 are generic because these claims read on all of the species identified by the Examiner. If any of these generic claims eventually are allowed, it is recognized that the instant requirement for an election of species will be withdrawn; and all claims which include the limitations of a generic claim, irrespective of the particular species on which those claims read, likewise will be allowed.

Applicants traverse the election of species requirement because the Examiner contends that Fig. 10 illustrates two different species, namely, Species VI and Species X. Consequently, Applicants are unable to fully appreciate the particular species that the Examiner believes are illustrated in the drawings. Hence, Applicants must traverse the instant election of species requirement at this time.

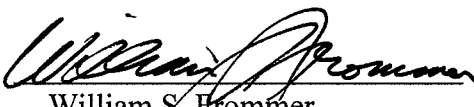
Another reason for Applicants' traversal of the instant election of species requirement is that Fig. 14, which the Examiner contends illustrates Species IX, simply illustrates one embodiment of block 14 which is included in all of the other species identified by the Examiner. It is submitted, therefore, that Fig. 14 is not illustrative of a separate species.

Applicants reserve their right to file one or more divisional applications, if necessary, to proceed with the examination of the non-elected claims.

Withdrawal or reformation of the instant requirement for an election of species; and an early examination on the merits of the claims of this application are respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG LLP
Attorneys for Applicants

By: 
William S. Frommer
Reg. No. 25,506
Tel. (212) 588-0800